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Errata.

Spring 1978 "Awareness", p.12.
line 4 should read:
...decided not to investigate...

A W A R E N E S S

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The editor regrets that for various reasons it is not always possible to acknowledge every item of correspondence received by Contact (UK) personnel, a fact in no way diminishing our gratitude to all who bother to communicate with us.

E D I T O R I A L

Ever since 1947, when ufos first burst into public attention, the subject of ufos has never been far below the surface, although from time to time there have been periods when interest in these enigmas appear to have been at low ebb, at least as far as the media and the public in general have been concerned. Currently we are, it seems, at a period of high interest. This new

enthusiasm has undoubtedly been generated by the appearance this year of two much-heralded films, "Star Wars" and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind". Both, it is understood, have been box-office hits. But "Star Wars" had little to do with ufos proper, and was really an updated and more sophisticated version of the old Flash Gordon films and Dan Dare comic strips of some years ago. Polished and technically impressive, the main theme of the story was essentially one of good against evil and altogether aimed at escapism. Intellectually it was impoverished and no doubt only appreciated by schoolboys or those who have retained a schoolboy mentality.

"Close Encounters of the Third Kind" is an entirely different type of film that relies on cinematic wizardry only in its closing sequences, where they are every bit as awesome as the "Star Wars" sets. The film explores the possibility that ufos and some alien intelligence is trying to communicate with earthlings. The story is credible only to those familiar with the known ufo record. Many parts of the story are based, sometimes closely but sometimes loosely, on actual ufo events that are alleged to have really taken place. The manner by which these are portrayed on the screen is seldom really convincing, despite technical and special effects. Certainly few people who have seen this film will really be convinced that ufos or alien intelligences truly exist; only that they might exist. So much more might have been done to make the case-based episodes in this film more credible. A great opportunity lost. Box office returns, one supposes, are always the prime considerations.

It might be thought that the above synopses of these two already very famous films are a bit hard on their makers and on those who may have enjoyed them. This editorial, however, does not set out to review either these or any other films, a process which, after all, is inevitably subjective. It does, however, point firmly to these films as failures to acquaint the man-in-the-street with the true ufo situation. Both films rely heavily on spectacular sets and hair-raising scenes. As such both are fine entertainment, but neither properly succeeds in revealing very much about the great ufo problem to the general public. Possibly neither was intended to accomplish that, although the second film publically claims to be directly associated with ufos. In that case the film utterly fails to lay out the real ufo saga, despite its references to Bermuda Triangle type activity (itself not yet indisputably linked to the ufo phenomenon), one which, even if given straight, is replete enough with sufficient spectacle and hair-raising ingredients to satisfy the most box-office minded film director. So, regretably the public are little wiser about ufos than before these films came along. As has been said, a great opportunity lost.

Judging, however, from the public response monitored by Contact (UK) to the prefilm press coverage of "Close Encounters of the Third Kind", men and women of all ages and from all walks of life continue to sight ufos in Earth's skies, and in large numbers. Most of the known British ufo groups have been swamped with reports from the public, who, quite clearly, were hitherto unaware of the very existence of many of these groups, and did know to whom to send in their reports. Now they do.

Let us, therefore, learn some lessons from the shortcomings of the various events described above, and, each of us, help to promote the cause of ufos and ufology ever more strongly. Lessons well learnt are rare, but surely not beyond our capacity.

The Editor.

MYSTERY "HELICOPTERS"

by

David L.Rees*

"'Circumstantial evidence is a very tricky thing', answered Holmes thoughtfully. 'It may seem to point very straight to one thing, but if you shift your own point of view a little, you may find it pointing in an equally uncompromising manner to something entirely different....'"

Sherlock Holmes to Dr Watson in "The Boscombe Valley Mystery".

Late in 1973 and throughout 1974, I became very interested in the sightings of a "mystery helicopter" made in Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Staffordshire. What, it may be asked, have such things to do with ufos? Well, perhaps they may have a great deal to do with the ufo problem, as this article suggests. Here I shall present some early thoughts on what the mystery "helicopters" could be, leaving it to readers to form their own final conclusions. Suffice to say that there are reasonable grounds for supposing a connection to exist between both types of aerial phenomena.

The first recorded sighting in the above area of a mystery helicopter occurred on October 26th., 1973 (1). This date, incidentally, was a major ufo peak day in the USA. The "copter" (for brevity's sake I shall henceforth refer to these unidentified vehicles as "copters") was seen flying at a low altitude around Buxton, in Derbyshire. It is interesting to note that, at first, police received calls from witnesses reporting a lighted cigar-shaped object streaking over the Pennines. One caller said that he had seen the object head out to sea near Scarborough, Yorkshire. Mr Martin Dale, a civil engineer of Abbey Dale road, Sheffield, said "I did not think the missile was a helicopter --- it was more like a flying saucer, 40 feet in diameter" (2). Also, Mr Terry Jones, a physics student, said "I saw it at 11.30 pm. It was heading east and looked cigar shaped. I would not have said it was a helicopter". The "helicopter" identification came from the Buxton police, and was confirmed in a letter received from them by MAPIT.

The next recorded sighting was on the 14th January, 1974, and centred around Goostrey, Cheshire, and the Hope Valley, Derbyshire (3). A full list of the other sightings made about or just after this date is given at the end of this article. On January 14th., however, the copter was landing in or hovering over fields, using only a bright searchlight, hovering over houses, and flying in and out of pylons, the latter a very dangerous manoeuvre. What possible motive could any official body have for this type of behaviour? Indeed, it was so curious that the Special Branch was called in to try and solve the mystery. One theory raised at the time was that the activity was linked to possible IRA movements. The copter was even featured in the trial of Donald Neilson (the Black Panther) over the tragic death of Lesley Whittle (4; 5).

At the time of the 1974 sightings I was working at Manchester Airport, where many civil airline and helicopter pilots told me that no pilot could manoeuvre in the manner that the mystery copter could. Captain Richard ("Dick") Hansen, a pilot for the Ferranti Company, said "The weather has been much too bad for any self-respecting pilot. Helicopters are unstable, and at night, with no horizon,

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4.

there is no possible way of hovering above the ground". He also added that he thought the copter was a "large size model". One interesting point concerns the terrific noise it makes, and that another concerns the fact that only the outline of the object has been reported, everything within it being dark. (6).

In Britain, as mystery copters were sighted almost nightly in January, so in Canada reports of "taillies helicopters" and cigar-shaped objects (7), were being made virtually simultaneously (8). Previously, in the October 1973 issue of SKYWATCH, I had written the following: "they (the ufos) could well have instruments capable of giving off sound effects". Another recent writer who has discussed the possible ufological connections of these mysterious objects, has wondered: "If none of these mystery 'jets' and 'helicopters' were of terrestrial origin, one begins to perceive why the relevant authorities persistently denied owning or despatching them, and why many contemporary ufologists, upon receiving such denials, concluded that those authorities were being less than honest in their disclaimers. If such objects were alien devices that purposely mimicked equivalent terrestrial air craft, then the authorities were actually being totally honest, and were, no doubt, as baffled by the events as the percipients. The true interpretation of such incidents may involve very different agencies from those that, on the surface, could lie behind the presence and operation of these objects in our skies" (9).

In view of their supposed, and indeed often demonstrated, technical prowess, is it not too much to conclude that ufos could assume the external appearance of stars, clouds, helicopters and aircraft, very much as Delair has suggested? In an interesting article (10), John Parkinson has reached similar conclusions, and adds: "From my observations of ufos over Kirkby in 1964 and since, I KNOW ufos exist beyond a shadow of a doubt. That light aircraft could well be used for short range reconnaissance without causing suspicion. Our so-called ufos look like stars in certain cases (see "UFOS OVER KIRKBY", by J.Parkinson). When dealing with an alien science, we should remember that all things are possible, and that WE are concerned only with MEN".

As to ufo origins I remain open-minded; these mystery copter sightings, however, possess many points of similarity with low-level ufo encounters, and I believe that this aspect of ufo research should be studied in much more detail than hitherto. I hope to produce a special report on British mystery helicopters in the future, and lay before interested bodies all relevant information. Anyone desirous of participating in this project is cordially invited to write me at the address given at the foot of the preceding page. All assistance will be most welcome and gratefully acknowledged.

Brief Summary of Sightings

- 26th, October, 1973. Buxton, Derbyshire; Yorkshire.
- 14th, January, 1974. Goostrey, Cheshire; Hope Valley, Derbyshire.
- 15th, January, 1974. Buxton, Derbyshire; Mow Cop, Audley, and Kelsall, Stafford.
- 16th, January, 1974. Arclid, Cheshire.
- 17th, January, 1974. A51 at Duddon, Alderley Edge, Macclesfield, Wilmslow, and Goostrey, Cheshire.
- 18th, January, 1974. A51 at Duddon, Cheshire.
- 21st, January, 1974. Comerbach, and Hyde, Cheshire.
- 16th.- 17th. January, 1975. Kidsgrove, and Bathpool, Staffordshire.
- 13th, May, 1976. Lymm, Cheshire.

References

1. Manchester Evening News, October 27th., 1973.
 2. Daily Mirror, October 27th., 1973.
 3. Daily Mirror, January 15th., 1974.
 4. Manchester Evening News, June 11th., 1976.
 5. Daily Mirror, June 12th., 1976.
 6. Manchester Evening News, January 19th., 1974.
 7. The News, vol.1, no:7, November 1974, p.20.
 8. Res Bureaux Bulletin, no:1, pp.10-11.
 9. J.B.Delair. "The Camouflage Syndrome: Part One", Awareness, Autumn 1977, p.14.
 10. Skywatch, no:3, November 1973, p.4.
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"THE HURON VISITATIONS: A PERSONAL NARRATIVE"

by

Miss Vera L.Perry *

(Editorial Introduction: the January 1977 issue of the Eden Bulletin (see "The Huron Encounter", vol.4, no:1, pp.2-5) carried an account of a series of remarkable events concerning a resident of Huron, Ohio, in which ufos, unknown entities, extraordinary animal reactions, and the premature flowering of plants featured prominently. That resident, who at one stage suffered great discomfort (including temporary but severe curtailment of vision) due to ufo activity, was 44 years-old Miss Vera L.Perry. As a result of following up the incidents recorded in the Eden Bulletin, Miss Perry subsequently divulged a great deal more detail respecting her experiences and those of others resident in her general neighbourhood. Eventually she accepted Contact (UK)'s invitation to act as their representative and field investigator in Ohio, since when she has regularly supplied additional news and reports of what indeed seems to be a veritable blizzard of ufo oriented events in that American state.

The following pages chronologically record Miss Perry's astonishing experiences, together with those of several of her neighbours, up to the present time, and constitute almost a micro-overview, as it were, of the entire ufo phenomenon as that is presently understood by the majority of ufologists. The events previously described in the Eden Bulletin are republished here with various amplifications received from Miss Perry since that journal first printed Miss Perry's account. A further advantage of reprinting these details revolves around the fact that the Eden Bulletin is not readily available to many readers in the British Isles, their inclusion here serving also to create a fuller and more comprehensive account).

Long resident in the Huron (Ohio) area (see fig.1), where I raise thoroughbred dogs and operate a kennels, my first experience of the ufo phenomenon occurred one evening in the late Spring of 1962 (exact date not recalled). I had taken my dog "Brownie" out for his evening run in the field opposite my house. The time was approximately 10.00pm., and the weather clear and dry. We had been out about 5 minutes when a glowing red cigar-shaped object was seen moving in the sky from West to East (see fig.2a). As it approached, the object suddenly turned a searing white beam of dazzling light upon me. I was momentarily blinded and stood rooted to the spot, while a hot tingling sensation coursed through my face and body. The light beam was then extinguished, upon which my first impulse was to run and try to hide among the leafy trees and bushes that bordered the nearby road --- the closest cover I could reach before the object would be upon me. A sharp command

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3. brought "Brownie" to my side, and we both ran out of the field, across the road, and into the bushes. The object steadily approached, and began circling the immediate area in which we were hiding. The light beam was turned on again, and seemed to penetrate everything it shone upon. After circling four times, the object moved off, very low, over an old pencil factory nearby.

Thinking that the object was leaving, we somewhat imprudently emerged from our hiding-place. Suddenly the ufo turned completely round and headed back towards our position. Swiftly retreating into the bushes again, "Brownie" and I watched the object, from underneath the leafy branches I pulled down low over us, circle the lower end of my property, where there was more open space and fewer bushes. Circling at least four times, penetrating everything with that brilliant beam of light, the object then returned to the area of bushes in which we were hiding, where it again searched everything with that terrible light. Eventually, it moved off in the direction from which it had first appeared, all the while climbing higher into the sky. After a short while it suddenly put on a tremendous burst of speed, and, in seconds, had disappeared. It's velocity was unbelievable.

Very cautiously, "Brownie" and I emerged once more from our refuge, scrutinizing the sky carefully before making a dash to my driveway and into my house. The relief that engulfed me at that point was unutterable, while shutting and locking doors induced a feeling of greater security, although in subsequent years, due to some of the later experiences I went through (see following pages), I realize that the mere bolting and locking of doors and windows would not have stopped alien entities from entering my house had they wished to do so at the time. I noticed that the time was then 10.50pm.

"Brownie" was trembling violently, and his eyes had a terrified, wild expression. Some thirty minutes later, a pain started in my head over my eyes. I assumed this to be a headache generated by the severe nervous strain I had just undergone. Ten minutes later, however, the pain enveloped my whole head and began to permeate the rest of my body. I started to feel sick, and my eyes started to burn and feel watery. Retiring to bed, I failed to get much sleep due to the intense aching, managing only a few moments of fitful "shuteye" at a time. Morning found me barely able to raise my head off the pillow. I was also blind, in that I could scarcely see more than two feet in front of my face; my eyes felt like burning coals.

Four days later, all these aches and pains, and the nausea, slowly diminished and my eyesight returned steadily. After a week I had returned to normality. Nonetheless, while they lasted, these strange afflictions added up to one of the most unpleasant periods in my life that I have ever experienced.

My next encounter with the ufo phenomenon occurred on June 8th., 1975, when, around 10.00 pm., I noticed brilliant white lights flashing in the sky to the southwest of Huron. At the time I was walking my dogs, the evening being clear and very beautiful with the stars twinkling brightly. Thinking that a storm was brewing, I listened intently for the roll of distant thunder. As I heard none, I concluded that the storm was too far distant to hear. Later, I wondered where the storm went as it never visited my district. In the local paper the next day I read the following article, evidently a response to enquiries made by other local residents.

"BRILLIANT LIGHTS ARE LAID TO MANEUVERS.

Army maneuvers are being conducted at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) facility at Plum Brooks, Perkins Township, police reported today.

The maneuvers, say police, account for the flashing lights observed last night by several township residents".

(Sandusky (OH) Register, Monday, June 9th., 1975, p.A.11)

Interestingly, dirty-looking grey-black clouds hung over the apparent storm area all the following day.

November 1st., 1975, was the date of my next experience of the ufo phenomenon. It occurred at approximately 6.15 pm., while I was at the South Shore Shopping Centre in Vermilion, Ohio (see fig.1), when, again, the weather was clear and dry. I had loaded my shopping into my car — a 2-door Buick "Skylark" sedan — and was slowly driving towards the carpark exit when I noticed a huge reddish-orange light approaching from the eastern part of the sky. Momentarily stopping the car to obtain a better view of the object, which now exhibited a small pale yellow light beneath the main orange light, I could begin to make out its shape, which resembled a lozenge; it was surrounded by a yellowish glow (see Fig. 2b). So intigued was I at watching this object that I forgot about the traffic behind me, until I was abruptly reminded of the situation by the blaring horns of cars queuing behind me, their owners and drivers either ignoring or being unaware of the light I was observing.

After exiting left at the traffic lights onto Cleveland Road West, I began heading towards Huron, and again searched the skies for the object. I soon located it, apparently passing over the carpark I had just vacated. From my new vantage point I had a full side view of the object, which showed it to be generally wedge shaped and about as large or possibly a little larger than a jet-plane; it featured a row of alternately orange-red and pale yellow lights along its entire length (see fig.2c). The main body of the object was coloured a dark-grey. I maintained surveillance of the object as I drove at moderate speed, seeing the widest end suddenly tilt upwards at approximately a 45° angle, upon which the object began to climb into the sky. Momentarily diverted by some congested traffic I found myself approaching, I was, on resuming my search a few moments later, unable to relocate the object anywhere in the sky.

In due course, upon returning home, I told my sister all that I had seen, at which she remarked that my description was closely similar to that of a triangular ufo featured in the Sept.9th.(1975) issue of the National Enquirer magazine, which she clearly recollected. I later saw a copy of this issue and located the relevant article and illustration. The similarity between the two objects was very noticeable. My sister, who works night hours where she is employed, arrived home very excited on the morning of November 12th., 1975, and asked if I had heard the Cleveland radio-station (WWWE) announcement that a deputy sheriff and two or three other people at Madison (Ohio) had, on November 11th., watched a triangular ufo carrying blue and white lights hover for a few moments over a high tension wire and then shoot off out of sight. She suggested that I call the radio-station and tell them about my sighting of November 1st. After much switch-board delay, I eventually spoke with a man who, as soon as mentioned the name Vermilion, became quite excited and told me that my sighting "tallys up perfectly with what someone else saw on the other side of town" at the same time. This unexpected confirmation by an independent witness was especially reassuring, and demonstrated not only the reality of the object I observed but its similarity of shape to widely separated witnesses.

The next episode occurred one night during early April 1976 (exact date unnoted). I had been asleep for some while, when I was suddenly aroused by the savage growling of my dogs, becoming almost instantly aware of a heavy stench in the air, permeating the entire room. Puzzled, as I could not think what animal gave off such an offensive odour, I got out of bed to look out of the bedroom window. I

saw nothing but the blackness of the night, although could hear something moving about and snapping twigs. The stench, like that of rotten-eggs, was so overpowering that I was forced to back away from the window, and I began to feel physically sick. Meanwhile, the dogs kept up their fierce growling, something they continued for at least a couple of hours --- the length of time the stench persisted. Gradually the dreadful smell faded away, my dogs settled down, and I finally went back to sleep, albeit a fitful one. The next morning I minutely examined the environs of my house for tracks or signs of the intruder. I fully expected to see animal tracks, but the ground was so dry and hard that no signs were visible. Numerous twigs and branches, however, had been broken off nearby bushes, although not in a fashion that enabled me to determine who or what had been responsible for the damage.

Not long after my experience with the "smell", and still in April 1976 (exact date unremembered), I was suddenly and for no apparent reason woken from my sleep. My subconscious screamed a warning at me that I was not alone. Glancing toward the doorway, I was appalled to see standing upright there the figure of a manlike being approximately 6 feet tall. He, or it, was dressed in a greyish coloured suit having a neckline of rounded shape. The facial colour resembled that of a mushroom (a dirty white), while brownish tinged areas occupied the positions where eyes normally are. These areas were large and they curved round the side of the entity's head, but I couldn't actually detect eyes proper, even though the being seemed to be looking straight at me. Nor could I see any nasal openings. The mouth, however, was a thin straight line (see fig.2d). I was terrified, and found myself sitting up in bed screaming my head off, upon which the entity vanished. Needless to say, I failed to get any more sleep that night, for every time I closed my eyes I could see the strange being staring at me.

The next episode occurred during the first week of May 1976, at approximately 10 o'clock, or a little after that, one evening. I was again walking my dogs, when suddenly, apparently away over Lake Erie (see fig.1), an extremely long pink oval light flashed in the sky only to disappear almost immediately. Although I watched the sky intently thereafter, no further flashes or any other anomalous phenomena took place.

Two nights later, however, when I was once more out with my dogs at about the same hour, I saw, moving from the north towards the southern sector of the sky, a pink coloured disc, similar to the oval that had flashed over Lake Erie two nights previously. As the disc moved noiselessly on its way, it looked as though steam or vapour was issuing from it. It eventually disappeared from sight behind a stand of trees.

Only four nights later, when, again, I was exercising my dogs, being in fact on my way in with them, I suddenly saw a brilliant white arc of light shoot out of the sky. The hour was late in the evening, and the arc appeared to be about the width of a rainbow. I stopped in my tracks and wondered what I had seen. Then another brilliant white flash occurred, shaped as in fig.2e. It was succeeded by two more similarly shaped, which were in turn followed by two sweeping white arcs of light in quick succession. Almost instantly I was reminded of the mysterious bright flashes I and others had seen in June 1975, practically one year earlier. This time I found it most difficult to believe that NASA experiments were responsible for these latest sky flashes and arcs. Calling my dogs, we all hurried homewards, but I only had taken a few steps before another white light, that illuminated a portion of the road onto which my house fronts. Also illuminated was a row of rose bushes, some flowers and two mock-orange bushes bordering the yard near which I was then standing. At this juncture I saw a most oddly

shaped light (fig.2f) shinning upon one of the mock-orange bushes. Thinking that a car was approaching and that the light was cast by its oncoming headlamps, I turned to see who it was. No car, nor indeed anyone, was in sight. Dumbfounded, I tried desperately to think of a plausible explanation for the extraordinary phenomenon. The light continued to illuminate the area and vegetation just described, for approximately five minutes, yet it came from no visible source. Then, as if somebody had pulled a switch, the light was gone. Giving the dogs a curt command, and being not a little unnerved, I hastened in doors.

Shortly after this, I began to feel nervous and uneasy, developed a headache, extreme nausea, a sore throat, glandular swellings in my neck, and generally felt as though I was fast succumbing to a particularly virulent cold. Remedies usually taken to combat severe colds failed to have any noticeable effect, and, worse still, some of the dogs also started vomitting and had fevers. Eventually, after some truly wretched moments, better health returned.

For the day and a half immediately following the above manifestation of strange arcs and lights, the atmosphere was oppressive and hard to breathe, while dirty looking grey clouds hung almost motionless over the area, exactly as had those that had formed after the mystery sky flashes the previous June near Perkins. I found it perplexing that virtually identical sets of sky phenomena had been observed almost a year apart, and that while the first set had been officially attributed to NASA manoeuvres, the second was, upon telephone enquiries I made of NASA officials, just as categorically denied as having any military connections whatsoever. Even more puzzling was what happened to the buds on the mock-orange trees four days later. These, at that time of the year, still had several weeks to go before flowering could be expected. Yet, four days after being mysteriously illuminated from some undiscernible source, they were in full bloom.

Latterly, I have often noticed that when the dogs are being exercised they are seemingly on "pins and needles", acting as though something unseen is nearby and they are trying to find it. Normally, the dogs are exercised for 10 to 15 minutes each evening, so imagine my surprise when, on the evening after the second set of sky flashes detailed above (and which collectively only seemed to occupy a few minutes of time), I found on returning to the house that I had been absent from it for almost 50 minutes. I have never satisfied myself as to how I contrived to lose the better part of half an hour that evening.

No further abnormalities occurred until February 9th., 1977, when, at approximately 8.50 pm., the dogs became restless and began pacing through the house, stopping every now and then, and raising their heads high as if they were listening to, or for, something. The dogs who were outside were making a half-bark ending with a howl. By 9.05 pm. the dogs in the house were going frantic, running from room to room, and barking and snarling quite savagely. Glancing out of a window, I saw a gigantic white light almost as large as a full moon, and as brilliant as a flood-light, hanging in the western part of the sky. Going outside for a clearer view, I saw it to be of circular shape and possessing a yellow-white hue; it also had a flashing red light on top and another below (see fig.2g). It then suddenly assumed a diamond shape (fig.2h), the colour changed to a deeper yellow, and the lower red light disappeared. The object seemed to be stationary, although rocked or wavered a little on its own axis. I hurried indoors to fetch my binoculars, and returned to find the object once more exhibiting a round configuration and a beautiful golden-orange colour (fig.2i). Abruptly it changed shape again, this time to that of an elongated pear (fig.2j), while retaining the same golden-orange colour which, however, now became edged or outlined by vivid red. The object then began to shrink in

size, finally disappearing completely. All of a sudden the object reappeared in the same guise, remaining a glorious spectacle for about 2 minutes, after which period it began to flicker like the flame of a candle and then blinked out altogether. It rematerialized, however, in another few minutes, then suddenly altered shape to two plates joined rim to rim (fig.2k). Two pulsating red lights were now visible, one on the top and the other on the bottom of the object, the main colour of which was now a glowing yellowish-white. At this stage a row of squarish windows or portholes could be seen encircling its middle. Without warning, a fiery red beam of light shot out from the upper pulsating light towards the south-west quadrant of the sky. Realizing that I needed visual confirmation of this extraordinary display, I hurried in doors and telephoned the local police, describing what I had just seen and enquiring if others had reported witnessing similar phenomena. Apparently nobody had, so after hanging up the receiver, I hurried outside again to observe the object, only to find that in the interval since I had last had it in view, it had completely vanished. I never saw it again, even though I waited outside for some while in case it returned.

Of interest is the fact that for several hours after watching the above display I felt ill and unaccountably cold and the dogs were unusually nervous and restless. Indeed, it was not until almost 2.00 am. that they settled down and I began to feel in better health again. It had not escaped my notice that, whenever I sustained attacks of ill health, so also did the dogs or, alternatively, they exhibited every sign of extreme nervous tension.

The morning following the incident described above, I woke to find a rash on my skin starting 2 or 3 inches above my collar-bone and extending all the way down to my mid-drift. It covered the whole of the front of my body, and part of my sides. Its origin was never established, but it stayed with me for a week, after which it slowly disappeared.

On Thursday, February 17th., 1977, I received a long distance telephone call in the afternoon. It was almost twilight — the time being 5.40 pm. — and I was preparing food for my dogs outside. The call resulted in me arranging to go a considerable distance in my car, which would mean that I would not return home until late that evening. Hurrying to finish feeding the dogs before setting out, I became aware of the chopping sound of a helicopter approaching. I paid little heed to it as helicopters quite often pass overhead and are a common enough sound in my district. Suddenly I realized that the helicopter had not proceeded past my property on some standard journey, but was circling the area in which my house stood. It sounded very low, and this made me curious. Stepping out into my yard I saw a large and very black helicopter circling my property at tree top height. It seemed to be paying special attention to the area illuminated by the mystery lights the previous May. It circled twice, then headed away over Lake Erie. Although I thought the visit a little odd at the time, I put the episode out of my mind as I still had to hurry away for the evening in my car.

Two days later, on February 19th., and at approximately 6.30 pm., I had to go to my local hardware store to buy some replacement batteries for my flashlights. It was about 7.30 pm. before I had acquired these, and I had stopped at a nearby grocer's store to purchase a few items I realized I also needed. As I sat in my car at the traffic lights waiting to turn off the main road into a parking-lot, I heard, above the sound of passing traffic, the same chopping sound made by the black helicopter. Parking in a spare space, I looked for the mystery helicopter and was more than surprised to see it heading in my direction from my property, which, of course, is quite some way down the

road from where I was parked. It was flying very low with its lights on, and headed out over Lake Erie. When I got home shortly afterwards, my sister came running out (remember this was a Saturday, when she did not have to go to work) all excited, asking if I had seen the helicopter. She then said that it had circled our property 2 or 3 times almost at tree top level, very slowly, and with its lights on.

The more I thought about the foregoing event the more convinced I became that something strange had been, and was, going on. Privately owned properties are not suddenly examined after being ignored for years previously, and in such a meticulous manner, without some good underlying reason.

On Monday, November 7th., 1977, at 1.30 pm., a man named Millard Faber --- resident at 422 Franklin Street, Apartment 4, Sandusky, Ohio --- had a sighting of a large hairy humanoid creature that, from the description, tallies closely with the now standard Sasquatch or Bigfoot creature. The sighting was made on the Erie County/Huron County line at Monroeville (see fig.1). Mr Faber is an interior decorator, who also collects moss and algae to sell to local fish stores. He saw the hairy creature as he was walking along the edge of the west branch of the Huron River. The area is heavily wooded, and supports considerable undergrowth. The beast was standing upright, attaining an apparent height of 8 feet. Its posture was slightly hunched, and there was almost no neck. The arms were abnormally long, and the entire body was covered with coarse, dark-looking hair, except for its face which was hairless and leathery looking. It had orange-glowing eyes in the normal facial position. The beast stood still for little more than a second before abruptly plunging into the water under which it quickly disappeared.

Shaken by his observation, but with a desire to find some tangible evidence of what his eyes had communicated to his brain, Mr Faber searched the area, and instantly became aware of a horrible putrid odour. He then found a clearing where all grass had been stomped down over a seven to ten foot wide area. Next he found a branch with a mark on it like that made by a big claw. Looking still further he found huge footprints that were each approximately 24 inches long and about 18 inches wide. By that time, he thought the best procedure would be to have a police officer and somebody from the local newspaper come and view these tracks. Hurrying back to town, Mr Faber called on both the Erie County and Huron County sheriffs, on the Sandusky Register in Erie County, and on the Reflector-Herald in Huron County. A deputy from each of the two police-departments, plus a staff reporter from each of the newspapers, returned to the scene of the sighting with Mr Faber.

Once there, all present smelled the still lingering putrid odour, except for the Huron County deputy sheriff who alleged that he couldn't smell a thing. When Faber showed the party the trampled down grass in the clearing, Captain Larry Silcox of the Huron County sheriff's department interpreted it as being no more than a clearing made by people who come down to that spot to fish, drink and smoke "pot". The photographers took pictures of everything, and a whole series of the branch with the claw mark on it. Very curiously, Captain Silcox completely destroyed the branch immediately the last photograph was taken of it. By this time, and from the gist of the conversation taking place between the police-officers, Faber realised that a cover-up and debunking process was taking place, so he decided against showing the party the crucial evidence of the giant footprints. However, they followed the course of the winding stream to find that the water was coming from the side of a hill through extremely thick undergrowth, and out of which issued the overpowering stench, putrid and suffocating, they had all (Silcox excepted) smelled further

down the river. Nobody dared venture further into that thicket. The general impression was formed that perhaps a cave or hiding place of some kind existed in or behind the bushes into which the beast had retreated.

Together with the newspaper reporters, the two deputies decided to investigate further, claiming that there simply wasn't any tangible evidence (despite the by now destroyed branch exhibiting a claw mark) to warrant it. Evidently the still pervasive stench was not regarded as "evidence".

On Friday, November 11th., 1977, the Sandusky Register published a brief and factually rather inaccurate account of the sighting, and quoted the deputies as saying that they proposed to forget the whole thing. It is possibly of significance that, especially in view of other factors to be detailed later, the Register did not publish Faber's sighting (which occurred on the Monday) until the following Friday, a quite remarkable lapse of time for this daily tabloid. Errors in the published account included the consistent mis-spelling of Faber's surname as Favor, and the date of the sightings as Sunday, November 6th., whereas it was Monday, November 7th. The word County was also omitted from the reference to the Huron County Sheriff's Department, since it thereby suggested that Captain Silcox came from Huron Sheriff's Department, an entirely different unit. All in all a most unsatisfactory article.

Following up this case, I telephoned the Erie County Sheriff's Department dispatcher, who was most helpful and, over the telephone, read out to me the whole of the official report then lodged in their archives. He also referred to the newspaper pictures that had been taken, that the Huron Sheriff's Department intended to obtain those for their files, and that his department planned to revisit the site to secure separate pictures of their own. He also mentioned that Mr Faber was going to take pictures of his own, too. A very different reaction was obtained from the Huron County Sheriff's Department when I contacted their dispatcher about the case. He was unhelpful, and evasive and said that Mr Faber must be crazy. The dispatcher denied any interest in the case in his office, that he knew of no plans to revisit the alleged sighting site for the purpose of obtaining further pictures, and then wanted to know who I was, where I lived, and what my interest was in the case. I rejoined by stating that I wanted to write up the incident, and naturally wished first to check certain items of information. He curtly replied by saying "There's nothing to it, nothing out there, only people going down to the river to fish, drink, and smoke pot".

When, shortly afterwards, I spoke with Mr Faber, he affirmed his intention of pursuing the matter further and of revisiting the site to secure pictures of his own. We agreed that he should try to obtain plaster casts of the large footprints he had found but not shown the newspaper reporters and deputies. At that time we agreed to maintain liaison on this potentially important and certainly very interesting incident.

Although the following may not have any direct connection with Faber's sighting just described, or with my telephone conversation with the Huron County Sheriff Department's dispatcher, very strange events occurred on two different days shortly after the Sandusky Register article was published. As previously stated, the article appeared on November 11th. The following day, between 2.30 pm. and 4.45 pm., six different helicopters flew over and around the area in which I live. Four more helicopters flew, like the previous six, at low altitude over and round the same district between 11.0 am. and 2.30 pm. on Monday, November 14th. Such intense helicopter activity concentrated upon a locality never before nor since hosting such visits was decidedly curious.

All the foregoing details concerning the "Bigfoot" sighting were confirmed to me during my initial telephone conversation with Mr Faber. But, as matters turned out, Mr Faber telephoned me on two further occasions, each time divulging additional details. On the final occasion he mentioned that his brother, who had previously read quite a bit about ufos and "Bigfoot" (a simple enough procedure as so many newstand magazines have carried articles about these subjects during the past few years), wished to speak with me. His brother lived at Risingsun, Ohio, some distance away from Huron and its environs.

In due course, I received a telephone call from Mr Faber's brother, the outcome of which I arranged to meet both brothers on Wednesday, November 23rd., at a restaurant quite near my house. We met at approximately 11.00 am, and talked until 1.45 p.m. It was during the last 45 minutes of our conversation that Robert Faber — the brother of Millard Faber who had seen "Bigfoot" — confided that initially both had been suspicious of me and my questions, due largely to the offhanded and equally suspicious reactions of the authorities who had become involved in the case at first. It had been for that reason that Millard Faber had revealed additional details on different occasions, and because in one instance other incidents had occurred subsequent to the "Bigfoot" sighting. These are described below.

Thirty-six hours after Millard Faber's encounter with "Bigfoot", he had returned to his apartment and had gone to bed. Four chairs were by chance positioned quite close to the bed. Although there was no noise, Millard suddenly became aware of something being in the bedroom. Glancing towards the door that led to a hallway, He was astonished to see five glowing pink humanoid forms gliding towards him. Very naturally, he found it extremely difficult to believe his eyes, so continued to stare at the approaching entities. This permitted him to obtain a good view of them, although he inevitably began to feel uneasy when they failed to go away. He noticed that each entity was about 5 feet tall, and stooped over as though carrying a great load or burden on their shoulders. Each was rather slenderly proportioned, except for their heads, which were round and relatively large. Their eyes were slanted and glowing. Such facial features as could be discerned were oriental-looking. They wore sleek suits like those of skin-divers, with something like a belt round their waists. Although they moved their legs as in walking, their movement was actually a very smooth gliding motion.

As they approached the bed, four of them sat down in the four chairs previously mentioned, while the fifth approached to within one foot of the bed side. All five looked directly at Millard, who, by this time, experienced dreadful fear, for, although the entities never uttered a word or audible sounds, Millard felt or heard in some inexplicable way (?telepathic) their anger and hatred directed at him, for making public the sighting. Also, he had an overwhelming feeling that they planned to take him with them. At that point he abruptly leaned over to the nearest light switch and turned on the light. He could still see them and their angry intent looks, which, he claims, made him shake with fright. But gathering his wits, he yelled and swore at them to get out and stay out. Amazingly they did just that, and Millard Faber "hasn't seen or been bothered by anything since".

On December 9th., 1977, Millard Faber and I again conversed over the telephone, when he told me that neither he nor his brother had yet revisited the site, although they intended to shortly. As by December 13th. I had still not received further word from the Faber brothers, I telephoned Robert Faber in Risingsun; I asked him if there had been any developments, and whether he expected to make the casts of the footprints as previously discussed with his

brother Millard. He replied that this now seemed somewhat dubious as he and his brother had indeed driven back to the site of the sighting, arriving there late one afternoon, but had experienced odd and unaccountable feelings; also that friends had made a fresh discovery that probably militated against the acquisition of a footprint cast. He told me that, as it was twilight, he and his brother decided to cruise around slowly in their car, stopping every now and then to see if they could see anything. Coming to a bridge that spanned a small stream close to a heavily wooded area, they stopped and looked around. Everything seemed peaceful in the gathering dusk. They had been at that spot approximately three minutes when both began to experience extreme nervousness, whereupon Robert Millard, who was driving, suddenly floored the accelerator to speed the car away from the area. Both brothers afterwards admitted that they had independently felt as though they were being scrutinized by some unseen observer or observers, and that the feeling became so intense that the napes of their necks prickled up.

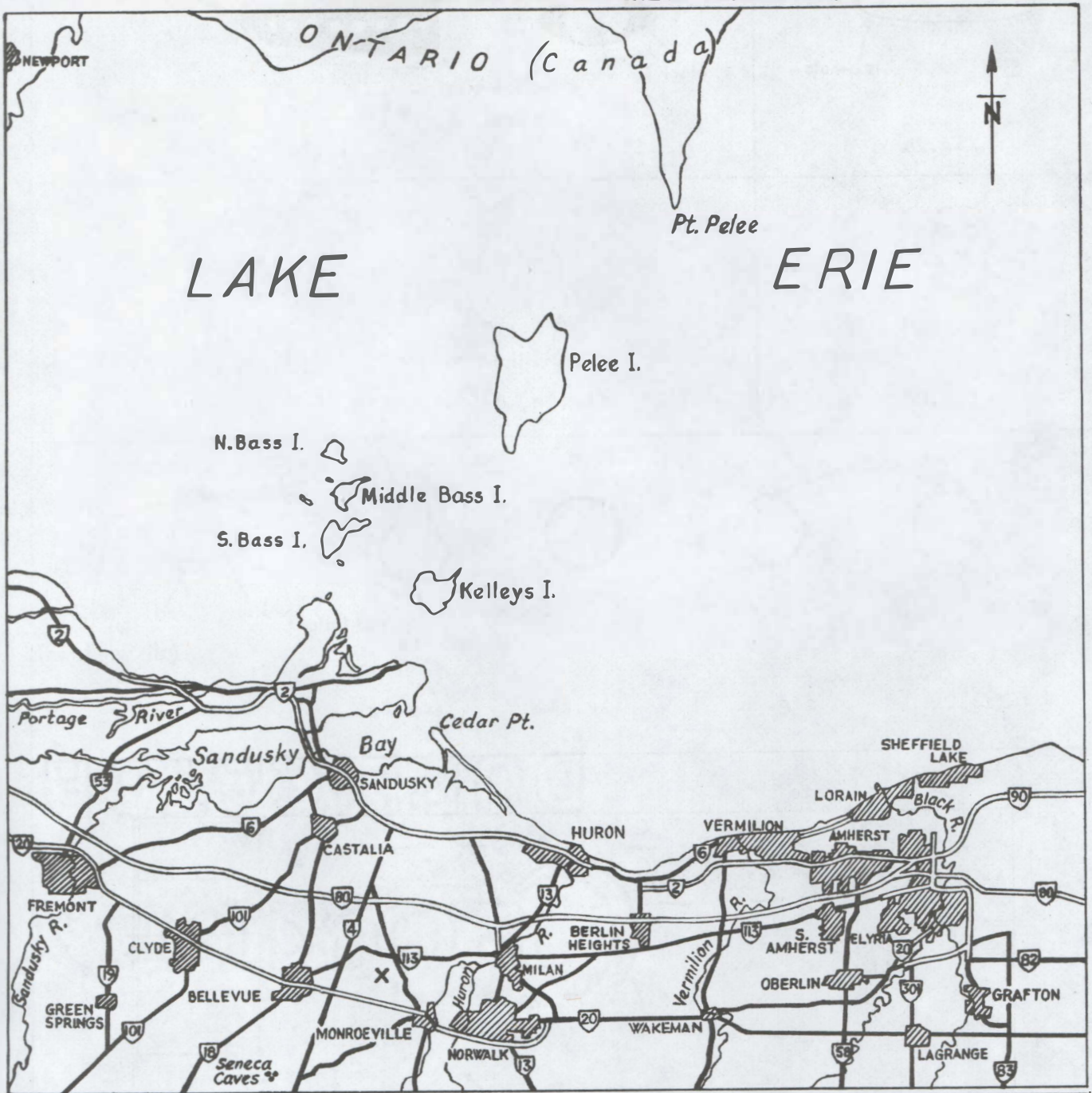
On Friday, December 30th., Millard Faber telephoned me with the news that some friends of his, aware of his "Bigfoot" sighting, had separately driven out to the relevant site with the purpose of further exploring the denser woodland, when they were suddenly confronted by deputies from the Erie and Huron County Sheriffs' Departments. The sheriffs told them that nobody was now allowed into that area and that they were to leave immediately. On being given this news, Millard Faber drove out to the locality to see for himself. Arriving in his car, he, too, met deputies who ordered him to turn around and drive away.

After hearing this information, I telephoned the Erie County Sheriff's Department to enquire about the situation and asked if what Millard Faber had said was true. Most interestingly, the policemen to whom I spoke cleared his throat and said "Well, ah...ahem" (cleared his throat again) "well, ah, I'll let you speak to someone else". Deputy number two responding to my enquiry said "Hmp. Well, what do you want to know?". I repeated my enquiry, at which he said "Ah, I'll let you talk to somebody else". Deputy number three, reacting to my enquiry repeated yet again, said "Oh, I don't know, I haven't heard anything and I don't know what the Huron County Sheriff's Department is doing". I thanked him and hung up. I didn't bother to telephone the Huron police as it seemed fairly obvious to me that I would only get the same, or a worse, run-around from them too. Equally obvious was the fact that some kind of cover-up was being maintained (exactly as Millard Faber had originally suspected), and that both the Erie and Huron police departments were still active in the "Bigfoot" sighting area. It took little imagination to conclude that it was Faber's "Bigfoot" that interested them.

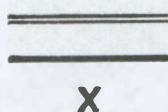
Prior to my series of December telephone conversations detailed above, the latest of the inexplicable events experienced at or near my home occurred. The time was 3.45 pm., and the date was November 25th., 1977. My dogs were feeding in the kitchen and I was sitting in a chair close to the kitchen doorway in my dining room. Suddenly I heard a very loud banging noise --- as if somebody had opened the inside backdoor and slammed it shut again as hard as they could. Being alone at the time, I was naturally startled. Looking into the kitchen I saw one of my dogs, who had been eating her meal in front of the refrigerator, suddenly give a wild, frenzied leap almost three feet sideways towards the dining room where I was still seated, and turn frightened eyes towards the corner of the refrigerator immediately by the kitchen corner, at which point the ceiling is 10-11 feet high. Coming in

Fig.1

The area of the Huron Visitations



0 10
Miles



Principal highways (turnpikes and others)

Other important roads

Location of "Bigfoot" sighting

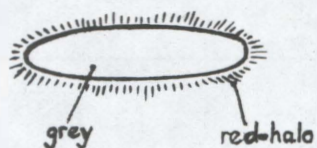


fig.2a

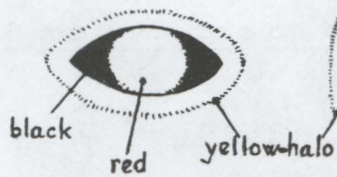


fig.2b

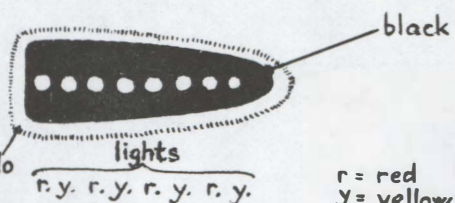


fig.2c



fig.2d



fig.2e



fig.2f

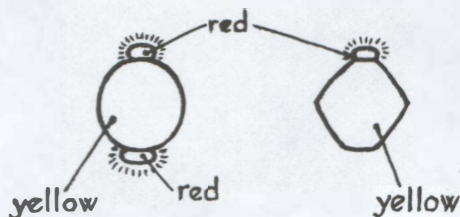


fig.2g

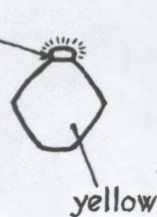


fig.2h



fig.2i

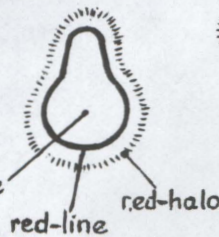


fig.2j

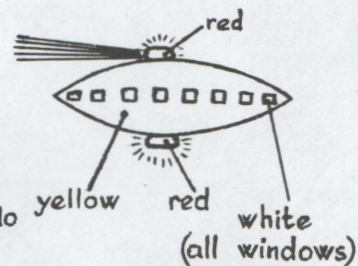


fig.2k

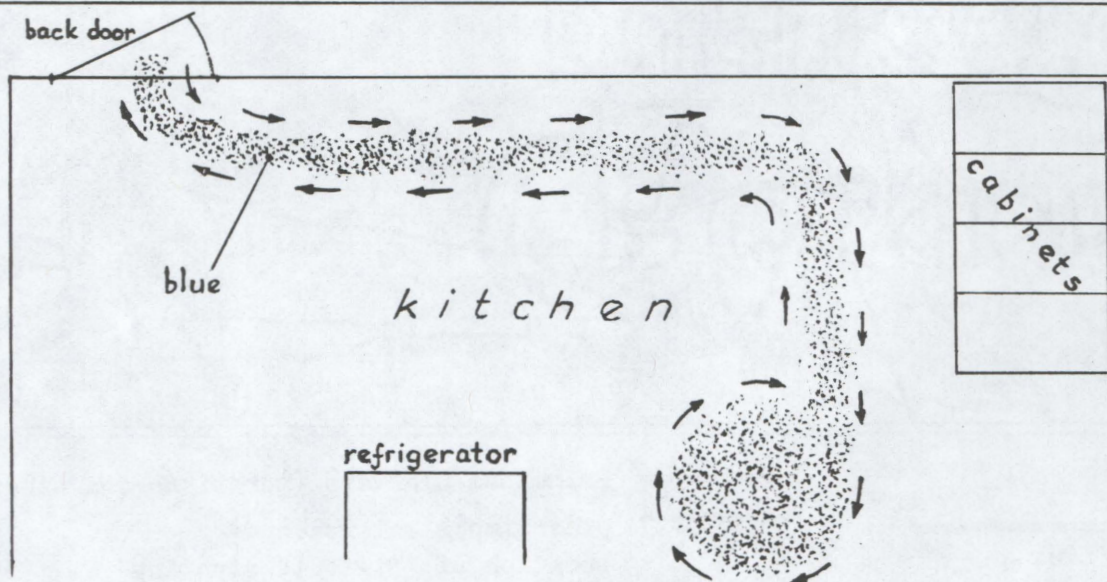


fig.3

from the back door, rolling and tossing into the kitchen some 8 feet above the floor was something blue coloured, 6 inches thick, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, which reminded me of a stream bouncing and splashing against rocks. As it proceeded straight into the kitchen from the back door, it suddenly stopped about one foot away from some kitchen cabinets (see fig.3), almost as though it had run up against an invisible wall. At that juncture the blue substance made movements like little waves and splashed higher. Then, whatever it was, turned and started further into the kitchen. It came in front of the cabinets and refrigerator, passed across the entire width of the latter, and made a left-hand turn close to the corner of the refrigerator. It then swirled and splashed like a whirlpool three times, before returning, still splashing, swirling, and rolling all the time, the way it had come, eventually disappearing out of the back door as though a vacuum was sucking it away. No ill effects were experienced, and no further signs of this incredible manifestation have occurred since.

There is little more to add except that, to me at least, the remarkable concentration of events over such a comparatively short period of time (as described in foregoing paragraphs) must surely lie outside the realms of pure coincidence. Probably time alone will tell whether a deeper significance underlies the events and their peculiar concentration. Certainly, as a result of their occurrence, I am more deeply aware than ever before of the inadequacies of Man's knowledge of his environment, and of the lengths that various individuals and groups will go to suppress and hide potentially vital information. I intend to continue monitoring any further "visitations" in this locality and will, should such occur, submit reports about them for the benefit of those better able to comprehend the seemingly irrational jumble of events that, to me at present, appear to make little sense.

"A SHORT APPRAISAL OF THE HURON 'VISITATIONS'"

by

J.B.Delair.

There is relatively little that can be said in a short space respecting the many strange events described in Miss Perry's article; but some comparisons with other similar cases from other localities are possible, and an awareness of these may not go amiss if they are given some attention here.

One of the first realizations concerns the fact that a very high percentage of the described events centred on or near to Miss Perry herself. Several earlier researchers in ufological and paranormal fields have commented upon the fact that certain individuals, and especially women, seemingly act as focal points for, or in some manner attract, phenomena of the kind chronicled above. As yet it has not been established one way or the other whether such individuals just happen to reside in localities attractive to such phenomena, or whether they, themselves, attract the phenomena. One immediately recalls the series of not wholly incomparable events at Maresfield, Sussex, in 1973 (i), or those at Keats Island, Vancouver, in 1967 (ii). In both those instances females were the prime witnesses and recipients of the phenomena. However, it must not be overlooked that Huron and the locality in which Miss Perry resides directly borders the region dubbed the "Great Lakes Triangle", in which innumerable insoluble disappearances of aircraft and ships have disappeared, where radio, compass, and electrical malfunctions are unreasonably common, and where even time warps seem to occur (iii). In this same area lies Ann Arbor, the scene of the infamous "swamp gas" expla-

nation, and a great deal of the region in which the celebrated, and still unexplained, mystery "airships" of 1897 were sighted (iv). It may thus be that the Huron district in which Miss Perry's residence stands forms part of this mysterious "triangle", and that it is that area rather than Miss Perry that acts as a focal point for the phenomena reported.

Many of the aerial objects described by Miss Perry conform closely with others sighted elsewhere on other occasions, thereby lending strong support to the likelihood that all were genuine ufos. The fact that some appeared to alter configuration whilst under observation is again paralleled by many earlier cases exhibiting this extraordinary capacity.

The mystery helicopter visits are especially interesting, particularly in view of the similar unidentified helicopters described at the beginning of this journal (v). Nor must it be forgotten that similar helicopters featured in several cases in Montana where mysterious and gruesome animal mutilations occurred during 1975 and 1976 (vi), and where, simultaneously, ufos were reportedly very active during evening and night hours.

The nocturnal timing of many of the Huron "visitations" therefore fits in well with normal ufo activity the world over, as also did the arrival of the smell. As described, this odour was closely reminiscent of that reported by other witnesses at localities hosting certain ufo landings and various "Sasquatch" and "Bigfoot" entities. The nervousness and fear displayed then, and on some other occasions, by Miss Perry's dogs ties in particularly well with similar animal exhibitions during close ufo approaches and "Bigfoot" visitations elsewhere. Indeed, such a stench accompanied the celebrated "Sutton Monster" (vii). The fact that Mr Faber reported a similar overpowering stench in connection with his "Bigfoot" sighting is therefore in line with analogous information from other localities. Quite possibly, the "Sutton Monster", never satisfactorily identified, was an early "Bigfoot" sighting. But of greater interest here is the apparent connection, at least in Mr Faber's mind, of "Bigfoot" with ufo entities or unknown humanoid beings, and also with water (into which it is said to have jumped). Several recent writers, including B. Ann Slate (viii), have suggested precisely similar links on the basis of quite separate reports.

The invasion of bedrooms by unknown humanoid beings, as reported by Miss Perry and Millard Faber, also seemingly reflects a growing trend in that particular direction as noted by specialists such as Bloecher and Webb. Thus, once more, reports of this type, fantastic though they may initially seem, are closely in accord with many reports from elsewhere.

The "blue whirlpool" visitation is difficult to assess, as it may represent no more than a species of ball-lightning, itself a misunderstood phenomenon. If so, this particular event resembles the mystery lights described by Gaddis (ix) and others. The "intelligence" displayed, at least superficially, by Miss Perry's visitor is especially interesting.

It is quite clear from the foregoing that a vast amount of additional research is necessary before positive conclusions can safely be reached concerning the various recorded events. Certainly the majority of them appear to resemble, often quite closely, other events elsewhere associated with the ufo phenomenon and, through repeated comparisons of innumerable individual cases, collectively reminiscent of the wider world patterns traceable in the overall ufo record. In that connection, the Huron "visitations" may constitute a very valuable piece of the ufo jigsaw, even though their repeated concentration in such a comparatively small geographical area is extremely interesting. If, as suggested above, they fall within the so-called Great Lakes "triangle", then they could be crucial to our understanding of that problem.

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- ii. Magor, J. 1977."Our UFO Visitors" (seattle), pp.39ff.
- iii. Gourley, J. 1977."The Great Lakes Triangle" (Fontana).
- iv. Keel, J. 1970."Operation Trojan Horse" (Abacus edition), see chapter 5.
- v. Rees, D.L. See pages 3-5 supra.
- vi. Donovan, R., and K.Wolverton. 1976."Mystery Stalks the Prairie" (THAR institute).
- vii. Keyhoe, D. 1954."Flying Saucers From Outer Space" (Hutchinson), pp.119-122.
- viii. Slate, B.A. "Florida's Rampaging Man-Ape", UFO Report (Saga), July 1977, pp. ff; and "Does Earth Really Belong to Man", loc. cit., October 1977, pp.32ff.
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"SELECTED UFO REPORTS"

by

D.N.Mansell.

The following reports, which cover the period October/November 1977, are a selection of the more interesting or significant sightings received by the Data Research division of Contact (UK) during the past few months. They are listed chronologically and relate only to British sightings.

October 10th., 1977; time approximately 9.00pm.
Between BANBURY and STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

A lone witness was driving between these towns when his car became bathed in a red glow. The witness stopped the car and saw a red ball, about the size of a football at arm's length, travelling across the sky very quickly. Its outline was very sharp. It was soundless, and was in sight for approximately half a minute before it disappeared out of sight in the distance.

Credit to "Skyscan".

October 24th., 1977; time between 4.15 and 4.30 pm.
The Devil's Punch Bowl, Surrey.

Mrs Anne Horn, one of Contact (UK)'s investigators, was driving on the A3 by the celebrated beauty-spot known as the Devil's Punch Bowl, when she noticed an object resembling a flying dart at no great height in the sky. It was coloured a slate-grey, and was the apparent size of a "Tiger-Moth" biplane. At first the object seemed to be "tree-hopping", but it later climbed steeply and disappeared into the clouds.

October 24th., 1977; time 7.29 pm.
WOLVERHAMPTON, West Midlands.

Investigated by E.T.Horton.

Four sisters were walking along a road when they noticed an object in the sky that seemed to be carrying several lights. It was generally cone-shaped, with three white lights disposed round its lower edge and another two in the centre. Of these latter, one was red and the other green. It was completely soundless, as it crossed the sky quite quickly and disappeared out of sight.

October 27th., 1977; time (exact hour unnoted, but "dawn").
SALISBURY, Wiltshire.

Two police officers in a Panda car, spotted in the sky what appeared to be a

20.
flying saucer. No more than 500-700 feet above Salisbury Plain, it was of an oblong shape with a dome on top, the base being flattened. Initially, the object travelled very slowly, but then suddenly accelerated and disappeared out of sight within seconds, leaving a vapour trail as it did so.

October 28th., 1977; time 11.35 pm.

WARMINSTER, Wiltshire.

Investigated by Roy Fisher.

Miss Bridget Chivers was driving along the main Warminster/Bath road, when she noticed a blue oval shaped disc in the sky ahead of her. Slowing down her car, she wound down the window and peered out at the object. She watched it land in a nearby field, by which time it had changed to a dark colour and had altered shaped to that of an inverted cone. It appeared to be nestling in a shallow ditch. A string of small green and pink lights was visible about half way down the main body of the cone. A large search-light type of light beamed out from the top of the cone.

The object remained on the ground for approximately 2 minutes, before it took off and disappeared into the sky. The witness managed to take a photograph of the object, but, as has happened in several other similar cases, nothing was seen on the developed film that confirmed the reality of the eyewitness's visual impressions.

October 30th., 1977; time unnoted: but day-time.

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire.

Investigated by Brian Panter.

A husband and wife, together with a sister-in-law, were travelling a road near this town in a Ford "Transit" van, when the husband noticed an unusual object in the sky. He drew the attention of his passengers to it, and, together, they confirmed that it was of a long arrow shape with a tail fin. The object was stationary, and a misty grey in colour, although the tail fin seemed to be glowing. Overall it exhibited a sharp outline, and was the size of a football held at arm's length. The witnesses stopped their vehicle, shortly after which the object simply disappeared.

November 6th., 1977; time 5.30 am.(approximately).

GRADDENALL, Cheshire.

A man was loading his car with fishing gear, when he noticed in the sky, in line astern, three globes or spheres proceeding slowly and noiselessly across the sky. Each was a little larger than a tennis ball held at arm's length, and coloured a duck-egg blue. The witness turned away momentarily to attend to an aspect of his loading operations, but when he looked again for the objects, he saw the same, or another, three spheres proceeding in a direction opposite to that of the first three globes, again noiselessly.

November 10th., 1977; time 5.05 am.

WANDSWORTH, London, SW18.

Investigated by Roy Fisher.

A police inspector, who requests anonymity, reports that he received information over the telephone about a strange object in the sky. Going to the scene of the sighting, he observed what appeared to him to be an ionized force field of some kind. It was a pillar of bluish lights, and hung stationary for over 30 minutes. It was possibly caused by refracted light from some more distant source, but neither that nor its true nature have yet been established.

November 14th., 1977; time 4.50 pm.

LITTLETON, Worcestershire.

A mother was sitting in her car waiting for her child to join her, when she

noticed a round object the size of a cricket ball at arm's length in the sky. It was coloured red and white, was hovering, and seemed to be rotating, flickering or throbbing as it did so. The object was under observation for approximately ten minutes, after which it passed behind nearly trees. As this sighting occurred in an area hosting considerable air activity, it is possible that the object was some kind of terrestrial device or manoeuvres, although that explanation is far from established. As yet, the object has not been positively identified.

Investigated by Anne Horn.

November 17th., 1977; time 10.55 pm.

WARRINGTON, Cheshire.

Mrs Joan Bullock saw an object in the sky resembling a lamp-shade, having the capacity to "switch off" the top part of the "shade", then the bottom section, leaving only the middle portion visible. This, in turn, slowly dimmed, and was eventually lost to view by becoming too faint to discern. This middle section appeared to have ports or windows, which, initially at least, were clearly observable. The object was about half the size of a rugby-ball at arm's length. Interestingly, when the last vestiges of the object were still visible it was observed against a longish-shaped cloud, coloured dark-grey, into which it appeared to enter. This may be compared with the numerous comparable instances detailed by J.B.Delair in "UFOs, Clouds, and Pseudo-Planes", Fortean Times, no:24, Winter 1978, pp.42-46.

November 18th., 1977; time 2.15 am.

WOLVERCOTE, Oxfordshire.

Investigated by Paul Flatman.

Mr Ayers was working outside when he noticed a brightly glowing object in the sky nearby. It was long and exceedingly thin, but very bright, especially at what he took to be its rear end. The object was travelling at great speed from north-west to north-east.

November 20th., 1977; time 6.30 pm.

BEXLEY HEATH, Kent.

Mrs Margaret Fry, an investigator for Contact (UK), was travelling by car with her husband, when they observed an object travelling in a north-east direction toward Bexley. A red and yellow light, or object, three times flew towards the witnesses car, and when they drove into the Broadway, the light again seemed to approach their vehicle. On this last occasion, Mrs Fry stopped the car and got out. She watched the object make an abrupt right-angled turn and give off a brilliant reddish-yellow light. A small Orange ball then appeared below the first object, or light, from which was directed a long, slim, beam of blue light. Both objects then vanished.

November 22nd., 1977; time 7.35 am.

WARRINGTON, Cheshire.

Investigated by Kathleen Waldron.

Mrs Olive Magraw observed, high in the sky, a bright white object moving steadily in a south-eastern direction. The object was cigar-shaped, and the size of a half-penny at arm's length. In width it appeared to be almost as large as a full Moon. Visible for approximately 2 minutes, the object did not deviate from its course before eventually disappearing from sight.

November 24th., 1977; time 8.00 pm.

WIGAN, Lancashire.

A lone witness watched a pulsating red object rise in the south-eastern part of the sky at a slowish speed. When the object had passed the observer's vantage point, the rate of pulsation increased and the red colour

deepened. At the same instant, the object increased speed and disappeared out of sight. In shape the object resembled an upturned saucer, and was the size of a pea held at arm's length. It apparently made no sound.

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Further ufo reports for the post-November 1977 period will appear in future issues of this journal. At present, many interesting reports for this period are under investigation, whereby release here of relevant details would be premature.

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Your committee is aware that the UFO REGISTER for 1977 has not yet appeared. It is currently in production and will be up to the usual excellent standard associated with this publication. Copies will become available in the next few weeks, and will be sent to all members who subscribed to the 1977-1978 season. We thank all members for exercising patience and trust that the eventual publication will meet with their approval. We feel sure that all members appreciate that the production of such a complex product as the UFO REGISTER inevitably involves all manner of problems, some of which have caused the present delay.

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